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Jinsei wa Barairo da

Hashida Yukari

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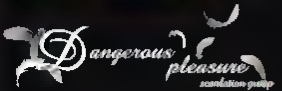

GUST COMIC

Jinsei wa Ippatsu no Hon

Yukari Hashida

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La Vie en Rose

Yukari Hashida

Kazu is a super rich homo pushing for a relationship with Yayoi. For every kiss, Yayoi gets five thousand yen as compensation. But Yayoi can't figure out why Kazu is in love with him. Suddenly, Kazu's ex-lover, who's the spitting image of Yayoi, makes his appearance...

PROFILE

■Birthday■
11 April, Year of the Ram
■Blood type■
B
■Location■
Hokkaido
■Likes■
Brad Pitt, Dogs, Shrimp's Pudding
■Dislikes■
Onions, Cats
■Recent news■
I'm completely addicted to my laptop right now.

Yukari Hashida's Looks

◆GUST COMIC◆

■ Jinsei wa Barairo Da

B6判　本体価格581円

After his parents were killed in an accident, Yayoi assumed their hundred-million yen debt. He was being pursued by collectors when a mysterious man, Kazu, appeared before him and offered to take on the debt if Yayoi would become his...

YUKARI HASHIDA

Jinsei wa Barairo Da

La Vie en Rose

La Vie en Rose

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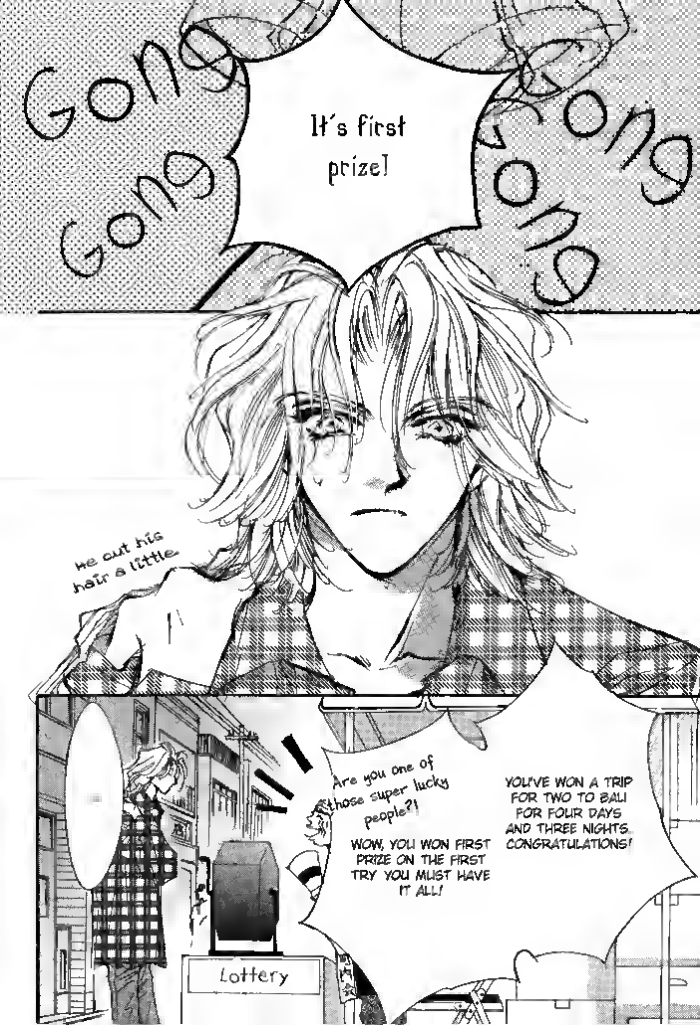
Presented by
Yukari Hashida

Jinsei wa Barairo Da 2

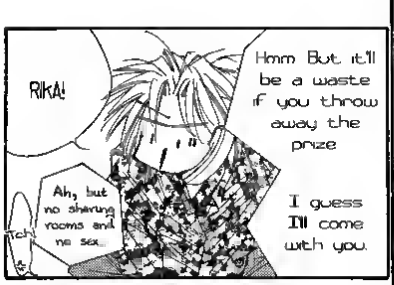
Chapter 5

Jinsei wa Barairo Da

La Vie en Rose


Gong
Gong
It's first prize!
Gong
Gong
He cut his hair a little
Are you one of those super lucky people?!
WOW, YOU WON FIRST PRIZE ON THE FIRST TRY YOU MUST HAVE IT ALL!
YOU'VE WON A TRIP FOR TWO TO BALI FOR FOUR DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS. CONGRATULATIONS!
Lottery

ERR.
OR ARE YOU PARALYZED WITH OVERWHELMING JOY?
HOW ABOUT LOOKING A BIT HAPPIER, EH?
WOULD YOU GIVE ME CASH INSTEAD?
No, I won't.
You won a trip to Bali at the lottery?!
Y-YEAH COULD YOU BUY IT FROM ME FOR 100,000 YEN RIKA?
Also, travelling takes a lot of money.
BUT I GUESS I'LL GO IF YOU COME WITH ME.
I'M OVER MY HEAD IN DEBT. I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT!
Lousy Plot
Why don't you go for it? You have a passport, right?


RIKA!
Ah, but no sharing rooms and no sex...
Tch!
Hmm But it'll be a waste if you throw away the prize
I guess I'll come with you.

Okay
There's no telling what will happen if he finds out.
Oh right.
DON'T TELL KAZU ABOUT THIS OKAY?

Yes, I get it already
Wor-ried
ABSOLUTELY NOT A WORD, OKAY?

Why don't you go with Kazu-san?
If you do, maybe he'll give you some pocket money
Huh?!
YOU'VE GOTTA BE JOKING!
IF I GO WITH HIM, THE ONLY THING GETTING EXPLORED WILL BE THE INSIDE OF MY ASS.

BUT...

...WHY THE HELL ARE YOU HERE?!
twitch
twitch
twitch
I HEARD FROM RIKA-CHAN.
But...
I'm so sorryyyy Yayo!!!!
You didn't listen!
RIKA, YOU...!
IF YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY, GIVE IT TO ME!
...when I told Hazu-san, he offered me a million yen to take my place

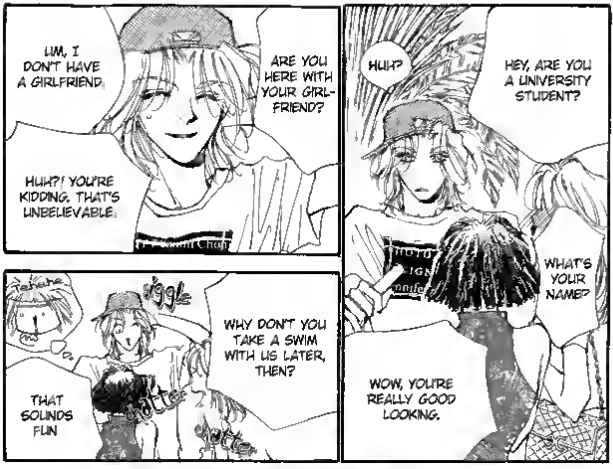
R-RIGHT, FUKU-CHAN.
YOU CAN GO IN MY PLACE IF YOU WANT.
UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T HAVE MY PASSPORT ON ME.
Have fun on your honeymoon trip with Hazu-san.
See ya. I'm going to H-wai with my boyfriend.
Beep
Relax, I heard there're lots of apse in Bali.
JUST
WA...
RIKA!
I'm nervous.
DOOO

FEAR
Going on a trip for two with this guy,
there's no telling what could happen.
What's he gonna do to me?

WHAT IS IT?
HEY.
...right reserved. No part of this may form or
Two guys don't usually come to a place like this
DON'T YOU THINK—
...THE TWO OF US STAND OUT A LOT?
Fascinating Bali, the four-day Island of Gods tour, is this way
HOMOS! THEY'RE HOMOS! HOMOS. HOMOS!
NOT AT ALL.
UWAH!
...
You're one, too.

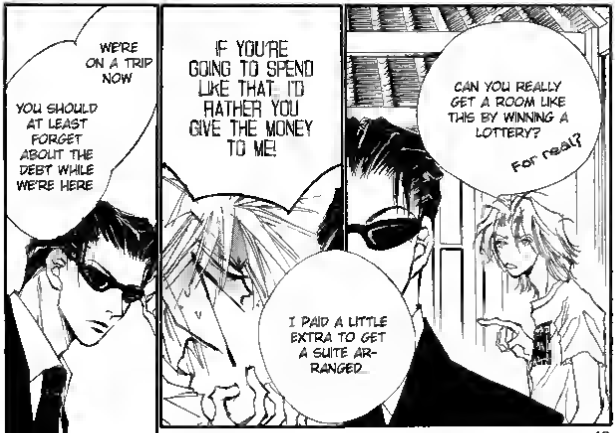
Hello everyone
I'll be your tour guide
Eh, he's the guide?
He's hot!
My name is Dido and I hope we'll have a nice time together
Japanese girls are very cute
Did you know girls are called "chinchin"* in Bali?
Kyaa
No way
Ugh
FUCKING PERVERT.
NOT THAT I CARE BUT DO YOU INTEND TO WEAR THAT HERE?
It's too hot.
I DO
TAKE IT OFF!
SAVE THAT LINE FOR WHEN WE'RE ALONE
Idiot

*Chinchin can mean penis in Japanese.


UM, I DON'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND.
ARE YOU HERE WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
HUH?! YOU'RE KIDDING. THAT'S UNBELIEVABLE.
HUH?
HEY, ARE YOU A UNIVERSITY STUDENT?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
WOW, YOU'RE REALLY GOOD LOOKING.
WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SWIM WITH US LATER, THEN?
THAT SOUNDS FUN
giggle
Gr
ah.
drag drag drag drag
Who's that?
...

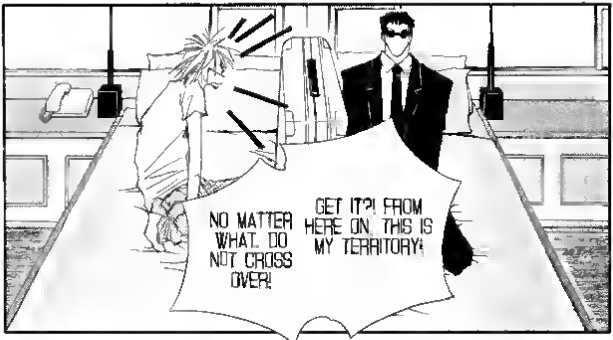
YOU'RE ACTING SURPRISINGLY CUTE.
It's creepy though.
I GOT JEALOUS
Slap
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
KAZU!
You interrupted me.
WELCOME TO OUR HUMBLE RESORT.
THIS WAY TO YOUR ROOM

Sparkle
Sparkle
Sparkle
Sparkle
WOW. THIS IS AWESOME!


WE'RE ON A TRIP NOW
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST FORGET ABOUT THE DEBT WHILE WE'RE HERE
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SPEND LIKE THAT, I'D RATHER YOU GIVE THE MONEY TO ME!
I PAID A LITTLE EXTRA TO GET A SUITE AR-RANGED...
CAN YOU REALLY GET A ROOM LIKE THIS BY WINNING A LOTTERY?
For real?

Relaxing
Thud
YEAH, I GUESS.
GOING ON A TRIP ONCE IN A WHILE MIGHT BE A GOOD THING.
IT FEELS KINDA RELAXING.
Hah?
This is the paradise resort of the south.
The breaking waves, the starry sky,
Being poetic.
a suite filled with atmosphere,
The bed is a king-sized one.

and..
...
J
THUD
WITH THIS, BOTH YOUR BODY AND YOUR MIND WILL FEEL RELAXED...
STOP IT!
I DON'T WANNA!

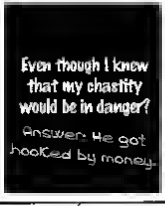

NO MATTER WHAT. DO NOT CROSS OVER!
GET IT?! FROM HERE ON, THIS IS MY TERRITORY!

ARE WE CLEAR HERE, KAZU?!
Good night
IF YOU DO SOMETHING TO ME, I'LL ACCUSE YOU OF RAPE SO YOU CAN'T GO HOME!

DAMN IT! I HAVE TO CONSTANTLY STAY ON MY GUARD.
I'm nervous..
I'm going to be alone with this guy from now on.

THIS IS THE KINTAMANI HIGHLAND.

DIRECTLY AHEAD, YOU CAN SEE MOUNT BATUR. ITS HIGHEST POINT ABOVE SEA LEVEL IS 1717 METERS. EVEN FOR BALI, IT'S A HIGH CLASS SUMMER RESORT
Lack of sleep.
FOR SOME REASON, THAT NAME HURTS MY EARS


Even though I knew that my chastity would be in danger?
Answer: He got hooked by money.

stay away.

Why the hell...
...did I go on a trip with this guy?
Answer: He got hooked by money.

THE PERSON I'M WITH IS RICH, BUT I'M POOR.
AH, YOU'RE WRONG
WHAT'S YOUR RELATIONSHIP?

WE'RE COMPLETE STRANGERS.
I'M SORRY, I ASKED A RUDE QUESTION
AH,

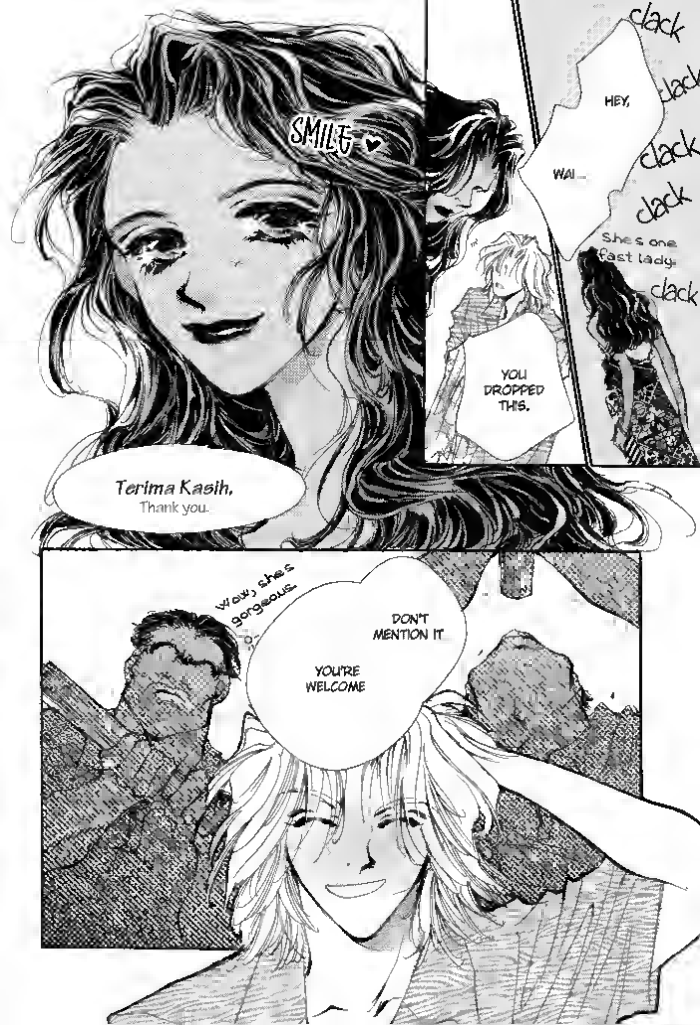
YOU MUST BE VERY RICH
They say the Japanese economy is in recession but I guess some people still prosper.
Ugh! It's that guy. Why's he coming to me?

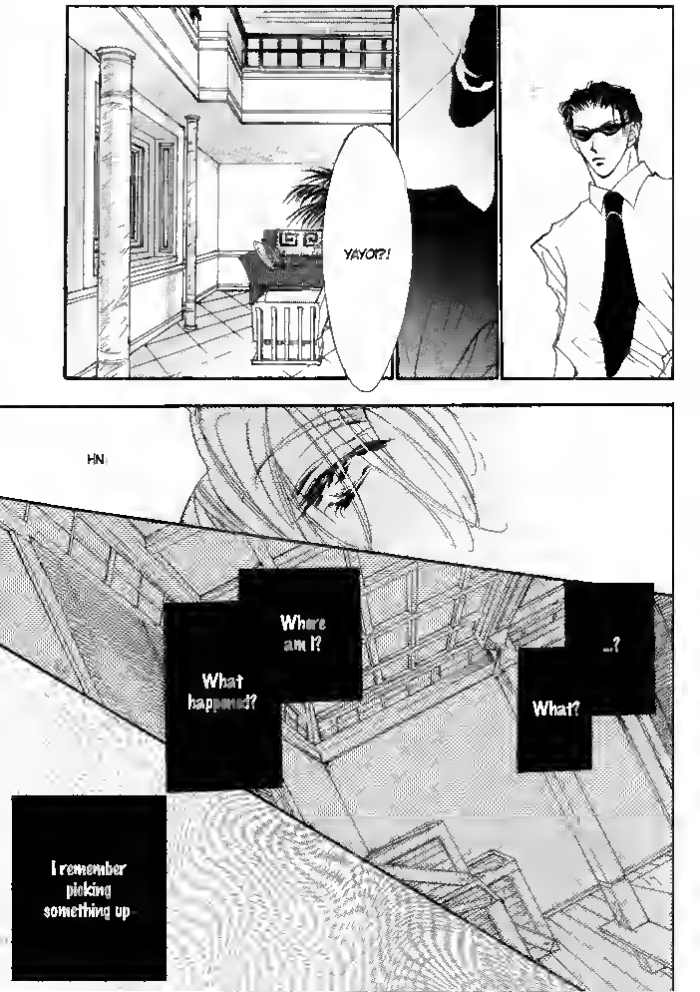
EXCUSE ME.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STAYED IN THE SUITE LAST NIGHT, RIGHT?

That's usually how it is, right?
MOST OF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE COMING HERE ARE EITHER STRAIGHT COUPLES OR WOMEN TRAVELLING TOGETHER.
SO THE TWO OF YOU REALLY STOOD OUT.
Good looking.
AH, OR A GUY IF THAT'S WHAT YOU PREFER.
WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO A NICE PERSON?
Waah!
NO, I DON'T!
YOU MEAN A GIRL?
Making sure.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
AH.
Not gonna try to hook up with a Japanese girl? You seem popular.
I..
..HAVE ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH ON MY OWN
That's right

Shit
THIS ROOM'S AIR CONDITIONER WORKS TOO WELL.
IT'S COLD.
I also have enough on my own plate, trying to pay back my debt
Kuzu
AH.
Dinner will be served in 15 minutes. After that, we'll go see a Balinese dance performance.
Please gather here again at 7.
I don't have time to travel like this...
I'LL BE DISCUSSING SOME BUSINESS
YOU STAY HERE
.. or be concerned about Kazu

HEY,
THAT'S HIM.
Geez! It's not like I'm touched by what you're doing.
THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT.
AH.
HEY.
WAIT!
Flutter
Pass


SMILE
Terima Kasih,
Thank you.
clack
clack
clack
clack
clack
HEY,
WAI...
She's one fast lady.
YOU DROPPED THIS.
wow, she's gorgeous.
DON'T MENTION IT.
YOU'RE WELCOME


YAYOI?!
HN
Where am I?
What happened?
...?
What?
I remember picking something up

Tighter
...
Glare
Glare
...

You've been kidnapped.
HUH?!
You guys.
WHAT'S THIS?!
HM...
If you don't want to die, then..
hand over the money.
HUH? BUT I ALREADY KIDNAPPED HIM.
You haven't done it yet.?!
I DID...
What's the meaning of this?!
Then you have the wrong guy
The target is still here.

B-B-But, you said the man was wearing black
That's what you said
FINE. I'M COMING OVER THERE NOW.
DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID UNTIL I'M THERE.
CLICK
THEN MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE YOU TAKE ME THERE
UNFORTU-NATELY FOR YOU,
I UNDERSTAND A LITTLE INDONESIAN.
!

THE RICH ONE IS KAZU! I'M A STRUGGLING STUDENT WITH A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR DEBT!
YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG GUY!
GEEZ! I'M THE ONE WHO WANTS MONEY HERE.
I'm wrong man Get it?
Are you OK? Get it?
Please return to Japan
Are you all right?
A stupid university student

I DON'T GET YOU GUYS AT ALL.
HUH?
RANSOM.
JAPAN
CALL.

...
Pi
Pi
Pi
IF YOU DON'T, I'LL KILL YOU.

I'M TELLING YOU.

AH, FUKU-CHAN? IT'S ME, YAYO!
I'M IN BALI RIGHT NOW AND I'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED
It seems these guys have gotten me and Kazu mixed up
Sorry, but could you explain that to these guys?
This is all Kazu's fault.

English

THAT'S HOW IT IS.
IF YOU VALUE THIS YOUNG MAN'S LIFE, PAY UP 10 MILLION
Hey, you have any water?
Ahh, hurry up and let me go home.

Hey!
We're not obligated to pay any ransom.
Unfortunately, that person has nothing to do with our company nor does he have any money.
Well then, that is all
HEY, YOU GUYS GET IT NOW?
HURRY UP AND UNTIE THESE ROPES.
If you do it now, I'll forgive you.

Are you listening? Hey!
HUH?
HE SAID IT'S THE WRONG GUY.
IT'S THE WRONG GUY?
IN THAT CASE,
WE CAN'T LET HIM OUT OF HERE ALIVE
HEY...
WHY DON'T WE CRUSH HIS EYES AND THROAT BEFORE LETTING HIM GO?
OR MAYBE WE SHOULD SELL HIM? MY FRIEND KNOWS A GUY WHO MAKES GAY PORN.
YOU...
WHAT'RE YOU SAY—
BAM

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
KAZU!
WHAT ABOUT THE POLICE?
I DIDN'T CALL THEM.
BY THE WAY, ARE YOU AND THE GUIDE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAME?
THAT'S RIGHT.
—
DON'T THINK YOU'RE GETTING AWAY WITH THIS.
YOU! YOU'RE THAT GUIDE! YOU'RE THE CULPRIT?
Huh?!
?!

WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?!
I WAS TOLD THAT IF I CAUSED ANY TROUBLE, YOUR LIFE WOULD BE OVER.
I'M SORRY FOR DOING THIS
NO MORE HARM WILL BE DONE IF YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY.
I WANT YOU TO GIVE US ..
...10 MILLION— NO, 5 MILLION IS ENOUGH.
Indonesian
I DON'T EVEN HAVE ONE RUPIAH TO GIVE TO YOU
WHAT WAS THAT?!
YOU MESSING WITH US?!
yank

SMACK
KAZU!
BASTARDS!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
SO YOU GET IT?
YOU HAVE 24 HOURS

YOU'D BETTER COUGH UP 10 MILLION BY THEN.
I CAN'T GUARANTEE YOUR LIVES IF YOU EXCEED THE TIME LIMIT.
JUST SO YOU KNOW ESCAPING IS USELESS.
THIS BUILDING IS SURROUNDED BY A BOTTOMLESS SWAMP
THIS IS MY FAULT.
SO YOU KNOW THAT MUCH, HUH?!
This happened because you had to stay in a suite.
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME A "MISSING PERSON" WITH YOU IN THIS COUNTRY
HURRY UP AND CALL FUKU-CHAN! SETTLE THIS!

I HAVE NO MONEY TO GIVE TO SOMEONE WHO HURTS ME AND WHOM I DESPISE
HUH?
PICK IT UP
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO ACT COOL.
IT'S LIKE A DRAMA.
HUMP
ISN'T IT EXCITING?
I-
THERE ARE SOME PIECES OF MY BROKEN SUNGLASSES NEXT TO YOUR HAND.
USE ONE TO CUT THE ROPE.

It's impossible to do it within 24 hours.
BUT..
...I CAN'T SEEM TO CUT THEM
Scratch
You lack spirit.
Pissed
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch

Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
Scratch
KAZU! YOU IDIOT!
Whose fault do you think this is?
AS SOON AS I'VE CUT THESE ROPES, I'M LEAVING YOU AND GETTING THE HELL OUTTA HERE.

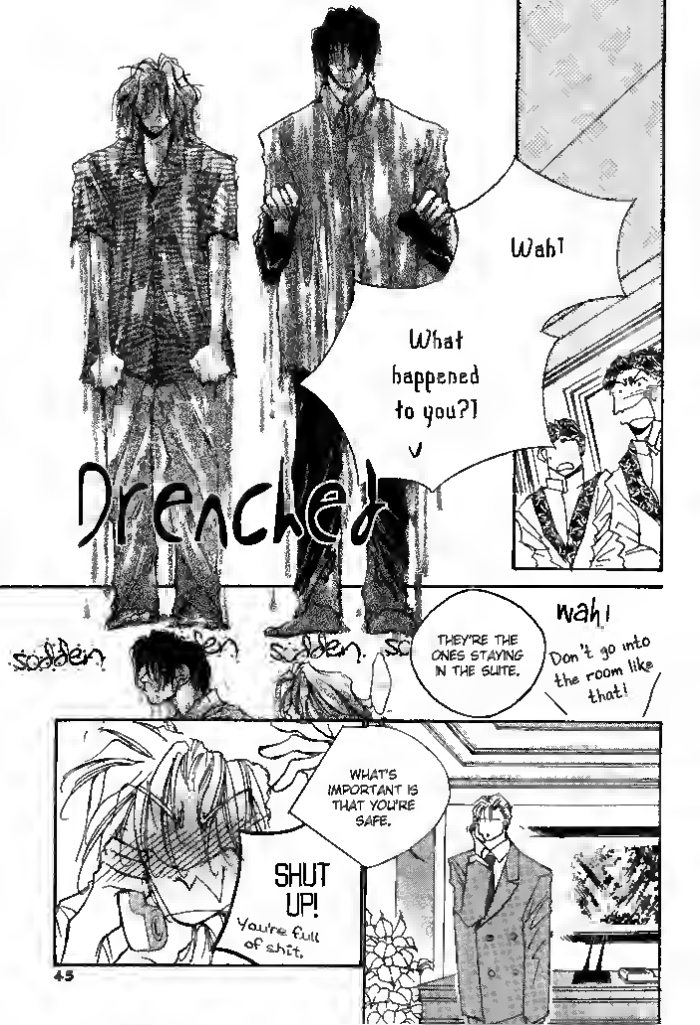
I'LL LEAVE YOU HERE ALONE AND WON'T CARE IF YOU'RE HOMO OR DEAD OR WHATEVER
HUH?
SIZZZ
WHAT'S THIS SMOKE?
FLAME
WHOA!
DID YOU CUT THEM OFF?
THEY DIDN'T GET CUT OFF!
THEY DIDN'T GET CUT OFF!
Ah! It's spreading onto my clothes.
IT WAS THE FIRE THAT DID IT!

IF WE GET BACK ALIVE,
YOU CAN HAVE SEX WITH ME!
YOU MEAN IT, RIGHT?
I'LL DO ANYTHING IF YOU SAVE ME!
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...
DO SOMETHING, KAZU!
I'll burn to death like this.

rip
Woosh
woosh
woosh
B-BASTARD! WHY DIDN'T YOU DO THAT EARLIER?!
IT WAS THE POWER OF LOVE AT THE SCENE OF THE FIRE.
You tricked me!
tush?
COME ON.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

GOOOOO
ACK!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE PART ABOUT THE BOTTOMLESS SWAMP?
Lift
I DON'T CARE.
IS SOMETHING BURNING?
Sniff
!!!
HM?
YOU THINK? I have a cold so, I can't smell anything.
ANYWAY, MAYBE WE SHOULD GO CHECK ON THEM
BRO REALLY THOUGHT THIS OVER, DIDN'T HE? KIDNAPPING A JAPANESE, I MEAN.
WELL, HE'S DOING IT BECAUSE HE CARES ABOUT US
CLICK

ROARING FLAMES
...
Wh! It's a fire!
What happened to them?! Burned alive?
IT SEEMS...
...WE'LL BE ABLE TO ESCAPE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.
Lucky it wasn't a bottomless swamp huh?
I'M NOT SO SURE.


Drenched
Wah!
What happened to you?!
soaked
soaked
soaked
wah!
THEY'RE THE ONES STAYING IN THE SUITE.
Don't go into the room like that!
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT YOU'RE SAFE.
SHUT UP!
You're full of shit.

WE FINALLY GOT BACK SAFELY.
YEAH!
THAT'S RIGHT
ALL THAT'S LEFT...
Third
Third
...IS FOR YOU TO KEEP YOUR PROMISE.
P...
PROMISE?
I don't know what you mean.
DON'T WORRY
I'LL BE GENTLE.

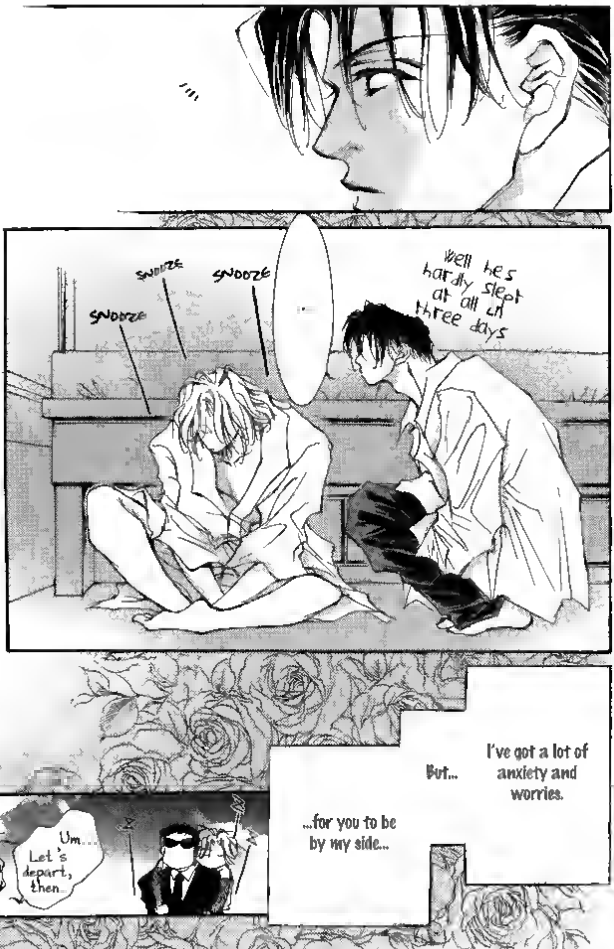
YOU'RE STILL ALIVE
I'M RELIEVED
HOW DARE YOU SHOW YOUR FACE HERE! YOU'VE GOT SOME BALLS!
WE'RE TURNING YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!
?!
YOU!
I KNOW
IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT CAN BE FORGIVEN WITH AN APOLOGY, BUT I'M SORRY.
That's just like me... Hmm.
A YEAR AGO, MY FATHER PASSED AWAY AND LEFT A HEAVY DEBT. MY MOTHER WAS BEDRIDDEN BECAUSE OF ILLNESS.
OUR FAMILY MEMBERS DID ALL KINDS OF JOBS BUT WE STILL COULDN'T SETTLE THE DEBT.
AFTER THAT, MY SISTER DECIDED TO SELL HER BODY AND MY BROTHERS GOT INVOLVED IN CRIME.
They don't look like you, your sister, however...
THE ONES INVOLVED WERE MY BROTHERS, MY SISTER, AND ME.
BRO-THERS?!

YOU'RE AN HONEST YOUNG MAN.
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE SOMEONE WHO'D COMMIT CRIMES
I UNDER-STAND.
I'M THE ONLY ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING AND CARRYING OUT THIS KIDNAPPING.
SO PLEASE ARREST ONLY ME.
I CAN'T POSSIBLY...
IF YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY GIVE IT TO ME
Annoying
THIS IS FAR LESS THAN THE RANSOM MONEY.
BUT I HOPE YOU CAN MAKE USE OF IT.
TAP TAP

T/N 10 000 yen

YOU'RE A BIG SOFTIE
YAY!
BECAUSE I CAME WITH YOU, IT BECAME A HORRIBLE TRIP.
I'M SORRY.
IT WASN'T THAT BAD.
Because in the end, no matter what,
THANK YOU...
...VERY MUCH.
YOU'RE STILL YOUNG.
YOU'VE GOT YOUR WHOLE LIFE IN FRONT OF YOU.
YOU CAN'T LET YOUR MISFORTUNE MAKE YOU LOSE SIGHT OF THE THINGS THAT ARE GOOD.
YOU CAN'T LOSE YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS.
YOU'RE A GOOD BROTHER FOR BEING WILLING TO SACRIFICE YOURSELF FOR YOUR FAMILY
YOU'RE A LUCKY MAN

you always say something that will set my mind at ease.
ACTUALLY, WHEN YOU CAME TO SAVE ME...
IT'S A BAD WAY OF PUTTING IT, BUT YOU WERE LIKE A PRINCE COMING TO SAVE THE PRINCESS
IN THAT CASE,
I'LL WAKE THE PRINCESS UP WITH A PRINCE'S KISS.
...
STOP!
STOP IT!
STOP!
Don't undress me! I'm not wearing underwear!
STRUG-GLE
That saves us some time
WAAH!


!!!!
SNOOZE
SNOOZE
SNOOZE
...
well he's hardly slept at all in three days
But...
I've got a lot of anxiety and worries.
...for you to be by my side...
Um....
Let's depart, then.

...gives me...
...enough happiness

...
It's because I got covered in mud
OH MY, YAYOI! YOUR SKIN HAS BECOME ALL SMOOTH!
MAYBE BECAUSE YOU SPENT A HOT NIGHT WITH KAZU-SAN.

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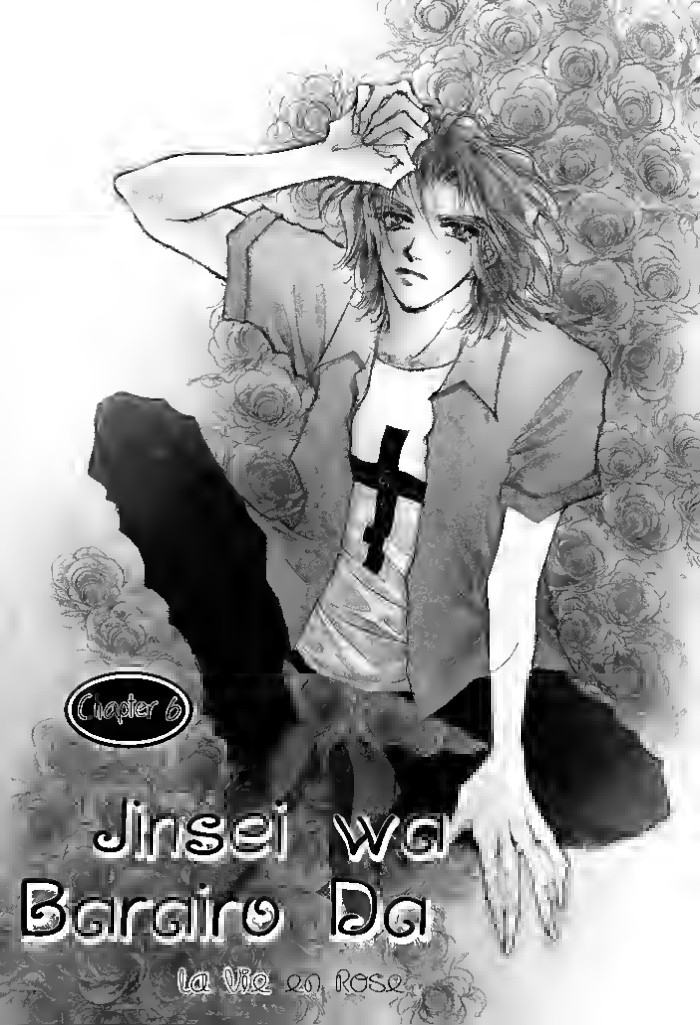
Chapter 6
Jinsei Wa Barairo Da
La Vie en Rose

LA VIE EN ROSE

Now that I think about it,
what was it about me that Kazu fell in love with?
EVERYTHING
BUT YOU WERE FOLLOWING ME AROUND EVEN WHEN YOU DIDN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT ME
YOU KNOW I DON'T SWING THAT WAY, AND I OWE YOU MONEY I MUST BE A BOTHER TO YOU
FOR EXAMPLE, YOUR FOUL MOUTH THAT CONTRADICTS YOUR LOOKS HOW YOU DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS AND YOUR ALMOST DIRTY ATTACHMENT TO MONEY
BAS-TARD.
I'LL KILL YOU!!

THAT SIMPLE HUH?
Well I don't really care.
I TOLD YOU, I FELT THAT WE WERE DESTINED FOR EACH OTHER.
IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
I don't know...
...what Kazu likes about me, but...
YOU SHOULD TRUST MY INTUITION.
NH.
ISN'T THAT WHY YOU LET ME GO THIS FAR?
YOU DON'T EXACTLY HATE ME, EITHER.

...If I didn't have this debt, if Kazu hadn't appeared before me,
I'm absolutely sure...
ARE YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING?!
I DECLINE THE OFFER.
When did you get here?
KISSING YOU IS THE SAME AS SITTING AT THE CASH REGISTER AT THE SUPERMARKET. IF I GOT MONEY FOR IT, I'D EVEN KISS FUKU-CHAN!
THAT'S OBVIOUSLY BECAUSE THERE'S MONEY INVOLVED. MONEY!
...that my life would be la vie en rose.
It's true that I can live a decent life thanks to Kazu
But...
ANYWAY, I'M LEAVING FOR MY PART-TIME JOB
MAKE SURE YOU TAKE THE MONEY FOR THAT KISS OFF OF MY DEBT.
It's 5000 yen.
HUH?

YAYOI
WHAT'RE YOU DOING SMOKING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE WORKING NOW?
Geez! You're so full of yourself!
I GET IT. YOU USED THAT FILTHY MOUTH OF YOURS AGAIN AND GOT FIRED IN A HEARTBEAT, RIGHT?
?
NOT THAT IT MATTERS TO YOU,
SINCE YOU'VE GOT KAZU AS YOUR SUPER RICH PATRON.
You're super lucky.

BUT YOU KNOW YAYOI, IF YOU KEEP THAT INDECISIVE ATTITUDE, ONE DAY ..
...KAZU-SAN'S GONNA THROW YOU AWAY.
WHAT'RE YOU PLAYING DUMB FOR?!
Mister Shy Guy.
whack
OW
whack
whack
KAZU?
WHAT DO YOU—
click
click
My Cartier!
What're you doing, Yayoi?!
Wait!

"He actually says *Oneesan* which means "big sister" It can also be used for a girl who's older than you

HEY!
Grab
IT'S YOU, RIGHT?
YOU'RE THE GUY WHO LIFTED MY WALLET YESTERDAY.

HUH?! WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
clamor
clamor
clamor
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
EVERYONE SAW YOU. NOW HURRY UP AND GIVE IT BACK BEFORE I HURT YOU.

HEY, ISN'T THAT MONEY?
LOOKS LIKE IT'S ENOUGH. I'LL TAKE THIS AND LET YOU OFF
DON'T TALK SHIT ABOUT PEOPLE. I DIDN'T LIFT NO WALLET.
PISSED
IF THIS IS A SHAKEDOWN, THEN JUST SAY THAT STRAIGHT UP.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
COMMOTION
COMMOTION

HEY!
Grab
IT'S YOU, RIGHT?
YOU'RE THE GUY WHO LIFTED MY WALLET YESTERDAY.
HUH?! WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
Crowd noise
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
EVERYONE SAW YOU. NOW HURRY UP AND GIVE IT BACK BEFORE I HURT YOU.
HEY, ISN'T THAT MONEY?
LOOKS LIKE IT'S ENOUGH. I'LL TAKE THIS AND LET YOU OFF
DON'T TALK SHIT ABOUT PEOPLE. I DIDN'T LIFT NO WALLET.
PISSED
IF THIS IS A SHAKEDOWN, THEN JUST SAY THAT STRAIGHT UP.
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

HUH?
WHAT THE FUCK IS THIS?!
AH.
THAT'S HIM, OFFICER!
LEARN FROM THIS AND BE A GOOD KID..
Empty
Y...
YOU'RE WRONG! I'M...
YOU'RE THE THIEF WHO STOLE MY PURSE YESTERDAY!
IT'S YOU!
COME WITH ME TO THE STATION
Wait!
HEY!
WAIT!
Dash

交通安全週間
What the hell?
What's going on?!
GEEZ,
BEING INVOLVED WITH THE POLICE? YOU'VE FINALLY HIT THE BOTTOM.
ARE YOU STUPID?!
WHAT IDIOT WOULD REVEAL HIS NAME WHILE ROBBING SOMEONE?!
HE MIGHT HAVE A POINT THERE.
I told you not to be rude.
I TOLD YOU, I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING!
I'll never forget it! a good looking man
NO, IT WAS DEFINITELY YOU!
WHEN YOU STOLE IT, YOU CALLED YOURSELF YAYOI
I'VE NEVER ROBBED ANYONE BEFORE, HAVE I, RIKA?
WHY DID YOU CALL ME DOWN HERE ANYWAY?
I'M NOT YOUR SURETY.

...IN AN OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT.
THE STOLEN MONEY WILL BE REPAID BY US...
Oh my! This man is also good looking!
Girls
Tch! Don't take liberties
I CALLED HIM.
I'M HIS SURETY.
I DEFINITELY DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING.
YOU SEE?!
WHY DO THINGS LIKE THESE KEEP HAPPENING TO ME?!
I DIDN'T ROB ANYONE IN FACT, I WAS JUST EXTORTED EARLIER!
YOU GUYS DON'T BELIEVE ME AT ALL, DO YOU?
EVERYONE SUCCUMBS TO TEMPTATION SOMETIMES
MAYBE YOU DID IT UNCONSCIOUSLY BECAUSE OF YOUR HEAVY DEBT.

SPEAKING OF STEALING, GIVE ME BACK THE WATCH YOU STOLE YESTERDAY.
It cost 400,000!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YESTERDAY WHEN WE MET.
I DIDN'T STEAL IT.
WE DIDN'T MEET.
Don't tell lies!
I'M NOT LYING
Then who was it?
Ah, shut up
You're saying it was an impostor or something?!
I'm sure it was you
IM-POSTOR?
HOW COULD THERE BE SUCH A THING AS A—

M...
M-M-M-M-M...
ME?!
A guy who...
... looks exactly like me.
WAIT!
Dash

CRASH
COULD IT BE...
IT'S YOU, RIGHT?!
YOU'RE THE IMPOSTOR WHO USED MY NAME AND ROBBED PEOPLE
IMPOSTOR?
AREN'T...
...YOU THE IMPOSTOR?

WHAT'S GOING ON?
KAZU!
THIS IS THE GUY. HE'S THE ONE WHO ROBBED PEOPLE
K...
KAZU!

I MISSED YOU!
I MISSED YOU!
I MISSED YOU!
SATSUKI?
Wha...
What the hell is this?
To all Japanese,
HELLO.
I'M SATSUKI, AMERICAN AND 21 YEARS O.D.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU ALL.
Incidentally, the matter and fi thes re- P ase.

WHEN DID YOU COME TO JAPAN?
ABOUT TEN DAYS AGO.
IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS, SO IT TOOK A WHILE TO GET USED TO THINGS.
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
No way. He's really identical to Yayoi.

NEVER MIND THAT.
WHO'S HE?

YOU'RE BOTH ACQUAINTANCES OF MINE.
AREN'T YOU TWINS?
AND WHY THE HELL ARE YOU HERE?
YOU BASTARD! I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE ASKING!
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
Even your names sound alike.

AND THIS
IS THE GUY I HAVE FEELINGS FOR RIGHT NOW.
Ack.
HM.
ARE YOU TWO TOGETHER?
NO!
I'M JUST A PERSON INDEBTED TO HIM!
DID YOU BUY THIS GUY WITH MONEY, KAZU?
HECK NO!
GOT IT.
I'M SORRY, BUT I HAVE WORK TO DO NOW. SEND EVERYONE HOME
AH.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
THE TWO OF US WILL GO HOME TOGETHER.
ugh

Who the hell is this guy?
Don't get all familiar!
LET ME GO!
IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO USED MY NAME WHILE ROBBING PEOPLE.
WHY WOULD YOU COME ALL THE WAY FROM AMERICA FOR THAT?
And...
...what's his relationship with Kazu?
LET'S SPEND SOME TIME ALONE LATER.
SEE YA, KAZU.
WHAT IS IT YOU WANT EXACTLY?
HEY,
HOW MUCH DID KAZU BUY YOU FOR?
HUH?

A...
A HUNDRED MILLION YEN.
HOW MUCH DID HE GIVE YOU?
How rude.
I...
I WASN'T BOUGHT.
BUT NEVER MIND THAT.
HE NEVER GAVE ME THAT MUCH.
H...
HE DIDN'T GIVE IT TO ME. I BORROWED IT
Pfft!
THAT'S WAY TOO EXPENSIVE!
disgusted
BEFORE MEETING HIM, I DIDN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF EXPERIENCE.
H...
H- H- HOW WOULD I KNOW?!
THANKS TO KAZU, I REALLY GOT INTO IT OR YOU COULD SAY KAZU HAMMERED IT INTO ME
ANYWAY, HE'S AMAZING HE MADE ME COME OVER AND OVER AGAIN
KAZU'S GOOD, ISN'T HE?
AT SEX.

I've got goose bumps
OH RIGHT, KAZU'S...
WAAAAAH!
STOP IT!
HMMM
IN THAT CASE,
AREN'T YOU GETTING MONEY IN EXCHANGE FOR SEX, LIKE I DID?
NO!
I told you I didn't!!
JUST SO YOU KNOW, I HAVE NO INTEREST IN MEN. THE ONLY RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE IS THAT OF A LENDER AND A BORROWER.
KAZU'S THE ONE COMING ON TO ME. IT'S REALLY ANNOYING!
HOW ABOUT AN EXCHANGE?

I'LL TAKE OVER THE DEBT AND KAZU FROM YOU.
IN EXCHANGE, YOU'RE FREE FROM DEBT AND FROM KAZU.
WELL?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
SINCE...
...THE TWO OF US LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE.
A...
AS IF A THIEVING PHONY LIKE YOU CAN HANDLE SUCH A DEBT!
THINK ABOUT IT.
SEE YA.

Kazu..

..used to pay money to date that guy.

Could it be that

..approached me because I looked like him?!

Eh?!
H..huh?
YOU'RE THE GUY WHO SHOPLIFTED IN MY STORE YESTERDAY.
IT'S YOU!
YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE STANDING HERE AND PRETENDING AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED!
While looking cute.
What's going on?
Shop lifting?

You're fired.
COME WITH ME. I'M TAKING YOU TO THE POLICE!
YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG PERSON
MIYA-SHIRO
I CAN'T. I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK
Argh!
That bastard!
BAM
DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT GUY, KAZU!
EVERYONE'S TREATING ME LIKE A CRIMINAL THANKS TO HIM. I CAN'T EVEN WALK DOWN THE STREET!
I'M TALKING ABOUT THAT IMPOSTOR SATSUKI!
WHAT GUY?

I HAVE NO CONNECTION TO SATSUKI NOW.
BUT I'LL REMEMBER THAT FOR WHEN I SEE HIM.
NO CONNECTION?!
YOU AND SATSUKI ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
Hah.
I'M NOT SO SURE.
ANYWAY I DON'T REALLY CARE
YOU TWO WERE TOGETHER, WEREN'T YOU?
THE REASON YOU MADE A PASS AT ME WAS BECAUSE I LOOKED LIKE SATSUKI RIGHT?
NOT AT ALL.
I'VE REALIZED THAT IT'S MY FACE THAT YOU LIKE.
ISN'T IT GREAT THAT THE REAL THING HAS APPEARED?
IT EVEN SEEMS LIKE SATSUKI'S STILL IN LOVE WITH YOU.

YOU CAN JUST BUY HIM LIKE YOU DID BEFORE.
OR MAYBE...
...HOMO PARTNERS HAVE SERVED THEIR PURPOSE AFTER YOU'VE DONE THEM ONCE?!

I WON'T...
...LET YOU INSULT ME ANY FURTHER.
I...
I'M SORRY, KAZU. I SAID TOO MUCH.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
I'M GOING TO THINK ABOUT WHETHER I REALLY LOVE YOU...
...OR IF I'VE ONLY BEEN ATTRACTED TO YOUR APPEARANCE.
GET OUT.
This is the first time...

...I've seen...
...Kazu looking so angry
YAYOI-SAN!
FUKU-CHAN
PLEASE BELIEVE IN KAZUTO-SAMA.
WHATEVER HIS PAST MAY BE, KAZUTO-SAMA ADORES YOU NOW
like I said, that bothers me.
IF I GET TOGETHER WITH KAZU, DOESN'T THAT MAKE ME THE SAME AS SATSUKI?
KAZU BOUGHT SATSUKI WITH MONEY, RIGHT?
KAZU DOESN'T WANT A LOVER. HE WANTS A PARTNER WHO'LL SLEEP WITH HIM FOR MONEY, DOESN'T HE?
SATSUKI...
WAS KAZUTO-SAMA'S LOVER.

WHEN HE FIRST MET SATSUKI, MONEY WAS INVOLVED.
AT THAT TIME, THERE WERE LOTS OF PEOPLE AROUND KAZUTO-SAMA WHO WERE ATTRACTED NOT ONLY TO KAZUTO-SAMA HIMSELF BUT ALSO HIS BACKGROUND.
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS POOR, SATSUKI-SAN DIDN'T CARE ABOUT MONEY OR STATUS. I THINK THAT OPENED UP KAZUTO-SAMA'S HEART.
BECAUSE OF THAT, KAZUTO-SAMA BECAME DISTRUSTFUL OF OTHERS.
THEIR RELATIONSHIP CONTINUED UNTIL THREE YEARS AGO WHEN SATSUKI-SAN LEFT FOR AMERICA DUE TO FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES.
BUT BEFORE HE KNEW IT, SATSUKI BECAME SPECIAL TO KAZUTO-SAMA.
HE ONLY CHOSE PARTNERS WHO WOULD HAVE A ONE-TIME RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM IN EXCHANGE FOR MONEY.
THEN...
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND, YAYOI-SAN?
...THAT SATSUKI CAME BACK?
...SHOULDN'T KAZU BE GLAD...

IF THIS CONTINUES,
KAZUTO-SAMA WILL BE TAKEN AWAY FROM YOU
But...
...it can't be helped, right?
It's because it's not easy for a man like me to fall in love with Kazu.
Click
IS YAYOI THE CAUSE?
NO.

KAZU,
DO YOU BLAME ME...
...FOR BREAKING UP WITH YOU AND GOING TO AMERICA?
THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST.
I CAME BACK...
...BECAUSE I WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
SATSUKI,
STOP LIVING SUCH A SELF-DESTRUCTIVE LIFE.
IN EXCHANGE,
OKAY, I WILL.

YOU...
...WILL BE THE ONE TO CHANGE ME.
It can't be helped, can it?
Because for me,
money is more important than Kazu right now.
crap
I don't have an umbrella.

"IF THIS CONTINUES, KAZUTO-SAMA WILL BE TAKEN AWAY FROM YOU."

Dp
Happy Birthday, Reptilian!

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SPLASH
Anyways, I should go home.

WHEN I FIRST MET YAYOI,
I WAS REALLY HAPPY.
I THOUGHT TO MYSELF,
MAYBE KAZU HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO FORGET ME
THREE YEARS AGO, YOU FILLED MY EMPTY HEART AND BODY.
FILL ME AGAIN...
...LIKE YOU DID THEN!

KAZU?!
Slide
YOU KNOW,
IT'S NOT LIKE...
...I'M HERE BECAUSE I WANT MONEY AGAIN...
I KNOW.
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YAYOI AND ME ANYWAY?
THEN WHY ARE YOU REJECTING ME?
ARE YOU DOING THIS TO STAY FAITHFUL TO YAYOI?
THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU.
YAYOI WILL NEVER ACCEPT YOU.

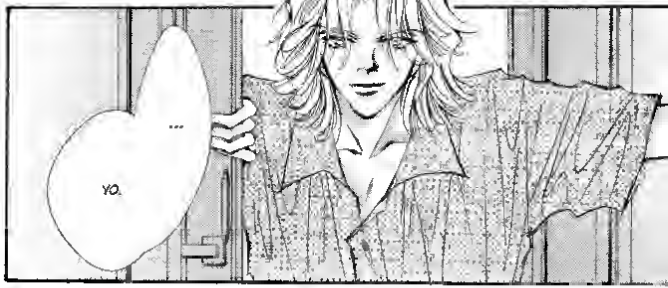
...IS IT THAT YOU LOVE?
WHAT PART OF HIM...
I'M NOT...
...SURE ABOUT THAT MYSELF
BAR
HOLD IT HERE, YAYOI
H-

POOR PEOPLE HAVE NO FREE TIME.
YOU DIDN'T DO THIS BEFORE!
Aren't you still a minor?
SHUDDUP. LEAVE ME ALONE
YOU'RE STILL WORKING HERE EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE YOUR DAYTIME JOB?!
You didn't come to school today
I WANT TO HURRY UP AND EARN MONEY TO SETTLE THE DEBT AND CUT ALL TIES WITH KAZU
Really now?
OK,
YAYO!
SEE YA.
PRRR

IT'S NOTHING.
I'M JUST...
DID SOME-THING... ...HAP-PEN WITH KAZU-SAN?
WHY'RE YOU TAKING ON SO MANY JOBS LIKE A RECKLESS IDIOT?!
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU!
Something definitely happened.
_GONNA WORK MYSELF TO DEATH SO MY BLOOD WILL BE ON KAZU'S HANDS.
I don't want to think about anything right now
YAYOI, ARE YOU EATING RIGHT AND GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP?
YOUR BODY WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE IT IF YOU KEEP GOING NONSTOP LIKE THIS
If I stay still,
I'll start thinking about pointless things.

STAGGER
if I think.
I'll.
...about it too much.
...become weird.
KAZUTO-SAMA.
Yayoi!

I'M BRINGING A GUEST IN
WHO?
I'M SORRY FOR CALLING AT SUCH A LATE HOUR.
FUKUSHIMA?
WHAT IS IT?


...
YO.

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO SAY?
YOU'VE NEVER COME TO MY HOUSE BEFORE.
IT'S LATE. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
HOW COLD.

...THAT I...
...SUDDENLY CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF MY MIND.
MAYBE IT'S THAT SATSUKI'S FAULT...
I'M NOT QUITE SURE MYSELF
I'M JUST CONFUSED AND CAN'T LET IT BE
ABOUT WHAT?
SO I CAME HERE TO MAKE SURE.
Thud

THAT'S ..
..WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED,
RIGHT?
HOLD ME,
KAZU.
IF I SLEEP WITH YOU, MAYBE I'LL FIGURE OUT HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU.
SO...
MAYBE YOU'LL ALSO REALIZE WHETHER YOU LOVE ME OR NOT.
UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T DO THAT.

WHY?!
SATSUKI,
YOU AND I ARE OVER.
WHAT,
YOU CAUGHT ME?
It fooled the secretary.
You can't fool me.
SATSUKI,
BOTH YOU AND I ARE DIFFERENT FROM WHO WE WERE THREE YEARS AGO.
YOU CAME TO SEE ME.
...BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO SEE FOR YOURSELF HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED, RIGHT?
THAT YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
COULD IT BE...
YEAH.

AT THAT TIME, I HATED MY WEALTH AND STATUS.
I THOUGHT THAT WITHOUT THEM, I WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BUILD MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS
HOWEVER,
MONEY IS DEFINITELY NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING,
BUT IT'S THANKS TO THE MONEY THAT I MET PEOPLE WHO ARE IMPORTANT TO ME ...
... AND HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE BEYOND IT TO WHAT'S TRULY IMPORTANT
SATSUKI,
I'M SURE YOU'VE ALSO ...
...GROWN DURING THE TIME WE WERE SEPARATED.

AMAZING.
DID YAYOI CHANGE YOU THAT MUCH?
I'M KIND OF JEALOUS.
I GUESS...
I COULDN'T WIN AGAINST YAYOI.
YOU'VE BECOME QUITE AGGRESSIVE, KAZU.
I COULD FALL FOR YOU ALL OVER AGAIN
BESIDES, IT'S NOT YAYOI'S BODY I'M AFTER
YAYOI IS YAYOI, YOU ARE YOU. YOU HAVE GOOD PARTS THAT YAYOI DOESN'T HAVE.

SO YOU DON'T MIND IF YOU NEVER EVER HAVE SEX WITH HIM?
HMM
I don't think he'll ever let you
Of course I mind.

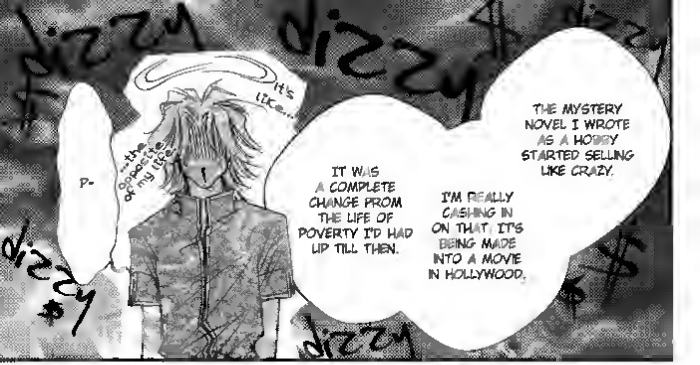
DON'T YOU FEEL TEMPTED BY HAVING ME HERE?
I do.
So hurry up and get out
...

STUFF
STUFF
STUFF
STUFF
STUFF
STUFF
GEEZ.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU COLLAPSED OUT OF HUNGER IN THIS DAY AND AGE.
You should be ashamed
I thought we had to go to a hospital again.
MIND YOW OH MIZNESS.
(Mind your own business.)
BUT...
BECAUSE I MET YOU,
I'VE COME TO UNDERSTAND SOMETHING

Sharp because she's a woman.

YOU TWO MAY LOOK ALIKE, BUT HE'S KAZU'S EX-BOYFRIEND, HE'S NOT IN DEBT, AND HE'S FRIENDLY AND ATTRACTIVE
WELL, IT'S UNDER-STANDABLE.
NO!
HE'S BETTER THAN YOU IN EVERY WAY.
I'll kill you.
KNOCK KNOCK
Gulp
WHAT'S WITH THIS RECKLESS BEHAVIOR? IS IT BECAUSE THAT CLONE APPEARED?
BESIDES I'M-
I TOLD YOU IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
IT'S YOU!
The root of all evil.

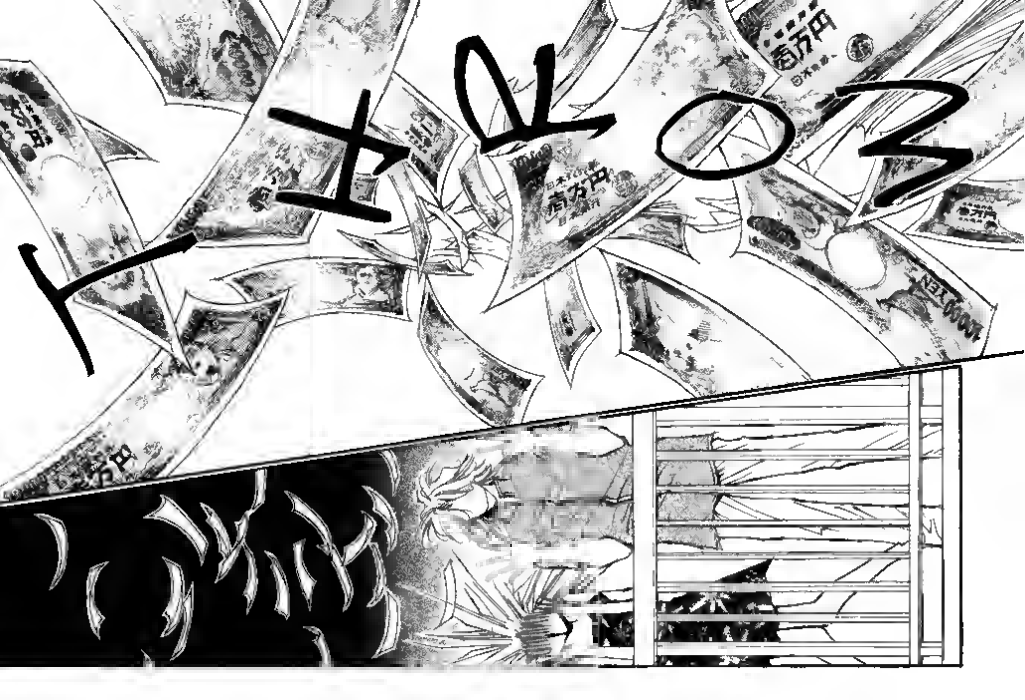
I WANTED TO TALK WITH YOU ONE MORE TIME BEFORE LEAVING
I WAS ONLY HERE ON VACATION AFTER ALL.
I'M GOING BACK TO AMERICA.
Now that I finally am able to tell you two apart.
LEAVING?
THREE YEARS AGO MY FATHER, WHO HAD GOTTEN A DIVORCE, DIED,
SO I RETURNED TO AMERICA AND UNEXPECTEDLY INHERITED A PRETTY DECENT FORTUNE
ALSO,
HUH?
YOU'RE KIDDING
LOOK AT THESE CALLUSES ON MY HAND.
DIDN'T YOU COME HERE TO ROB PEOPLE?
VACATION?
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH,
FROM STEALING?
You guys are so rude


dizzy
dizzy
dizzy
dizzy
dizzy
$
$
$
It's like...
...the opposite of my life...
P-
THE MYSTERY NOVEL I WROTE AS A HOBBY STARTED SELLING LIKE CRAZY.
IT WAS A COMPLETE CHANGE FROM THE LIFE OF POVERTY I'D HAD UP TILL THEN.
I'M REALLY CASHING IN ON THAT. IT'S BEING MADE INTO A MOVIE IN HOLLYWOOD.

TOO LATE.
SWITCH LIVES WITH ME.
PLEASE,
THEN,
I REMEMBERED KAZU AND THE PAST, SO, I CAME HERE
PEOPLE START CROWDING AROUND YOU. EVEN PEOPLE WHO WOULDN'T GIVE ME THE TIME OF DAY BEFORE CHANGED THEIR TUNE.
ONCE YOU GAIN MONEY AND STATUS,
I'VE BECOME A LITTLE DISTRUSTING OF PEOPLE.
THEN,
YOU AND KAZU...

WHAT IS IT?
TAKE THIS.
HERE!
THREE MILLION?!
IT'S THREE MILLION.
Eeek
CONSIDER IT AS CONSOLATION MONEY FROM ME.
WITH THIS YOU CAN PAY BACK SOME OF YOUR DEBT.
I DID SOME MEAN THINGS TO YOU.
HEY!
YOU KNOW,
MONEY IS REALLY IMPORTANT.
BUT...
...MAKE SURE YOU DON'T LOSE SOMETHING EVEN MORE IMPORTANT BECAUSE OF IT.

I'M GONNA LOOK FOR SOMEONE BETTER THAN KAZU.
SEE YA.
I'M REALLY GLAD...
...I GOT TO MEET YOU AND KAZU.
IF YOU USE THIS TO PAY BACK YOUR DEBT...
A-AMAZING! YOU'RE SO LUCKY, YAYOI!
You really are a lucky guy.
HA...
Yayoi?
HA HA HA HA ...
... HA HA HA HA HA!
HA!


ドカーン
南方円
NET TOWN

WHAT'S THAT?
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET.
IT'S MONEY.
MONEY'S FALLING FROM THE SKY.
GYAAAH!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
MONEY...
...CAN KISS MY ASS!
I finally understand

More than money,
More than anything,
the important thing is...
YAYOI
I WAS THINKING
.. ABOUT THE REASON I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU AND WHAT PART OF YOU I FELL IN LOVE WITH.
AND THEN I REALIZED...

WHEN I MET YOU, I HAD A FEELING
what does that mean?
U ...
It's a feeling
WHAT?
A FEELING THAT .
..LIFE WOULD BE INTERESTING IF I SPENT IT WITH YOU.
EVERY-THING YOU DID MADE ME FEEL GOOD.
IT WAS TRUE
.. REALIZED SOMETHING.
I'VE ALSO..
I see.
So that's how it was.

I LOVE YOU!
W-WHAT?
THERE, I SAID IT.
DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT IT AGAIN.

THE DEBT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
I LOVE YOU MORE THAN MONEY OR ANYTHING ELSE.
YOU'RE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO ME.
I DON'T WANT US TO SEPARATE
A life without Kazu ..
.. would be a boring life to me.
I LOVE YOU, KAZU.
I DON'T WANNA HEAR THAT FROM YOU!
BECAUSE OF THE DEBT, WE HAVE TO LIVE APART?
HAVE YOU FINALLY GONE INSANE?
SO?
HOW ABOUT YOU?
HOW DO YOU FEEL?

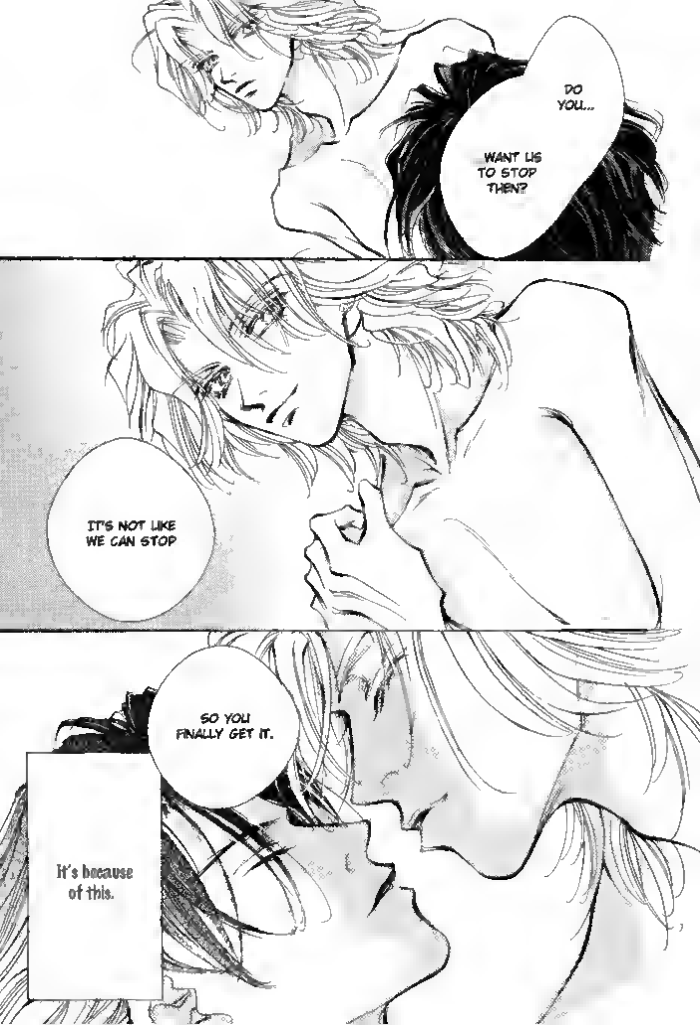
Push
W-
WAIT JUST A MINUTE!
I'M STILL NOT...
My heart isn't prepared
SHOULD WE STOP THEN?
HUH?
I'M SO HAPPY...
...I COULD FAINT.
IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN STOP,
CAN WE?

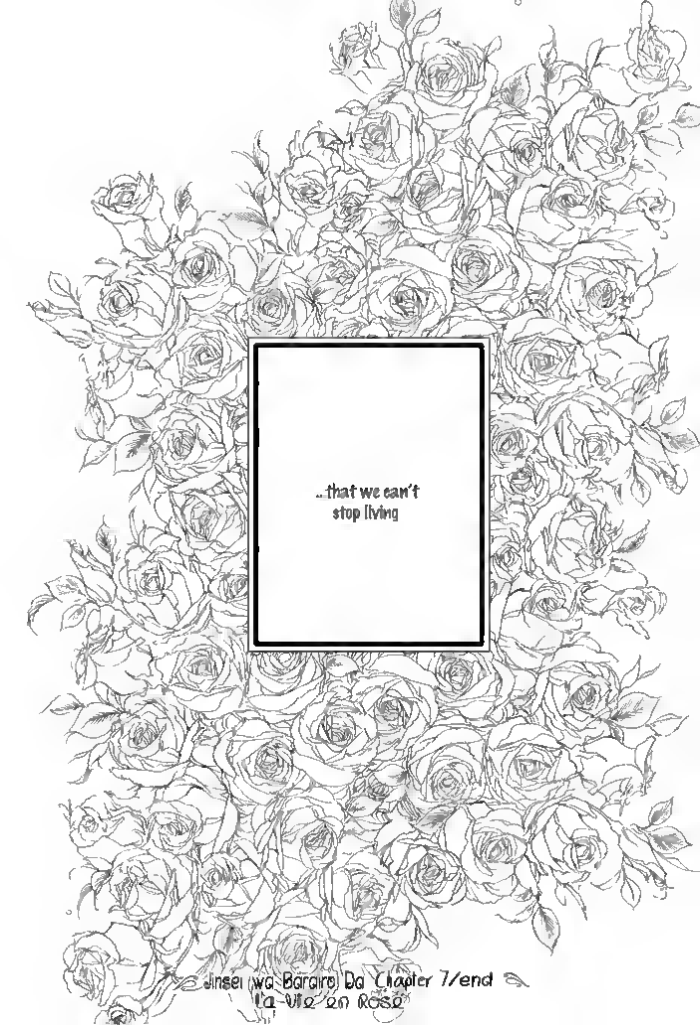
I've finally...
...been released...
!
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME, WASN'T IT?
HUH?
THE FIRST TIME WE'VE KISSED...
...WITHOUT PROFIT INVOLVED.

HN.
...from my sense of morality,
from all the ill feelings.
HA...
AH!
NO...
!
AH!
ARE YOU OKAY,
YAYOI?
AH...
Y-
YEAH.

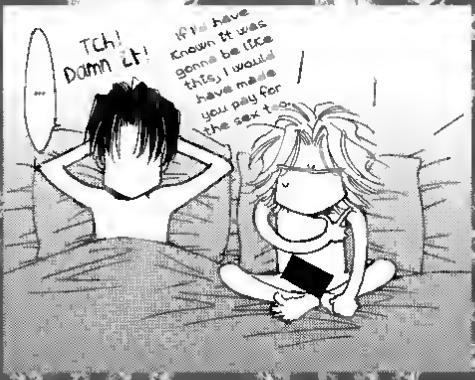
I've finally...
...gotten my hands on it

The thing I really wanted.
...MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'LL FORGET ABOUT THE DEBT.
BEING WITH YOU LIKE THIS...
DON'T PULL ME BACK TO REALITY.
You ruined the mood!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID THAT THIS AND THE DEBT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH EACH OTHER.
I'LL HAVE YOU PAY BACK EVERY PENNY.
A DEBT IS A DEBT.
I WON'T FORGET.
HUH?


DO YOU...
WANT US TO STOP THEN?
IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN STOP
SO YOU FINALLY GET IT.
It's because of this.


...that we can't
stop living

Afterword



Jinsei wa Barairo Da /END

La Vie en Rose

Hello It's the second volume of Jinsei wa Bakaso da! The story ends with this volume. (If you read it you'd realize that.) There were some initial challenges but it was also a pretty fun job to do!

I also wrote this in the first volume, but I borrowed the names for the characters from people I've met in real life or places I've been to. "Kazu" "Yayoi" and Satsuki" are all girls names and the third is also the name of a bar. It's the place where I've been having fun at night. It's also the place where I first tried Dom Pérignon Rosé. (Boasting a little.) But Dom Pérignon Rosé really is good! No wonder it's so expensive! I'm weak against alcohol but I love wine. The one I really want to try right now even if it's just once in my life is Romanée-Conti. It costs several hundred thousand. I wonder if there's someone out there who'd treat me? (There isn't.)

In the story they go to Bali. It's been 6 or 7 years since I went to Bali so when I was drawing, I felt like going there again. It's the only place in Asia I've been to other than Hong Kong. The places I want to go to the most right now are South Korea and Thailand. There seems to be really tasty food there. Talking about Bali when I went there I had the opportunity to taste the so called King of Fruits. Durian. It was just as smelly as people say! It smells like rotten cheese and the texture of it is like cream cheese. I don't think I'll ever eat it again.

There's also a Japanese confectioner in the story with a name that sounds like it could exist in real life. Actually it does. Iseya. (Seems like there's another shop with the same name that sells pickled stuff.) As for me, I prefer western sweets over Japanese! Anko doesn't make my heart flutter. I'm especially weak for cream and custard based sweets. I'm very fond of pudding and chou à la crème! And I really love cake! I have a weakness for simple sponge cakes and chiffon cakes. There are lots of cheap and good western sweets shops where I live in Hokkaido so I'm very happy. Oh, I also really love chocolate! With a lot of milk in it! I most really like sweets with milk in them.
Oh, but I do like the Japanese sweets that aren't sugary. I love senbei! But right now I'm correcting my teeth so I can't eat hard stuff. I love Arare too like Kakinotane (without the peanuts). When I'm working though the best sweet really is chocolate. It works when I'm tired and it's good for the brain.
Aaah now that I've been listing all these sweets I want to eat them!

And now I've been talking about nothing but things you eat for some reason. (Sweat drop) I'm such a glutton. That's why I'm going on a diet! At least that's what I think to myself, but it never turns out the way I went.
A life where you can't eat good food is the worst! It's meaningless! It's because we can eat good food that life is rosy.

Yukari Hashida 2000

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Extra

I'd always thought I had no relatives.

Since I was a child I'd been told..
..that my mother died giving birth to me...
...and that no one knew who my father was
Because of this I was taken in by a distant relative.
It happened...
when I became a middle school student
TOSHIYA-SAN,
THIS MAN IS YOUR FATHER.

A man calling himself my "father" appeared
OH!
SO YOU'RE TOSHIYA!
My father's name was Kitami. He was a wealthy big-shot in the economic world.
FROM NOW ON..
..WE'LL ALWAYS BE TOGETHER.
I could barely speak or even move, but..
I'M SORRY FOR LEAVING YOU ON YOUR OWN FOR SO LONG,
BUT EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE NOW

...I remember wondering...
..."Is this the warmth of a blood relative?"
But...
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE YOU
THIS IS MY SON, KAZUTO
THIS IS TOSHIYA
YOU TWO GET ALONG WELL NOW.
.. NICE TO MEET YOU

Why is my last name "Fukushima" instead of "Kitami"?
Why doesn't anyone talk to me about my mother?
Why won't you call me "son"?
Why?!
Why,
Father?
...HELLO,
NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.
HEY, DID YOU SEE THAT BOY NAMED TOSHIYA?
I FEEL SORRY FOR THE LADY..
MASTER CAN'T TELL HIM HIS MOTHER DIED ON HIM.
Aakter Aakter
AH!

I wanted to ask, but I couldn't because..
..there was an air of taboo..
...about it in this house.
HEY, FUKUSHIMA!
IT'S AMAZING! YOU TOPPED THE MOCK EXAM AGAIN!
... I MADE A MISTAKE ON THE INTEGRAL EQUATION.
HEY WANNA STOP BY THE GAME CENTER TODAY?
Girls come over when you're with us.
YOU CAN EASILY GET INTO ANY UNIVERSITY YOU WANT NEXT YEAR. YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO STUDY!
SORRY, BUT I'M GOING HOME
Tch! You're such a loner.

OH WOW! AMAZING! THESE ARE ALL LOVE LETTERS!
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD
MUST BE NICE.
GOOD AT STUDYING, ATTRACTIVE, POPULAR WITH GIRLS, YOU'VE GOT IT MADE.
WORRIES DON'T EXIST IN YOUR WORLD, DO THEY?
AND THEN ON TOP OF ALL THAT, YOUR FATHER'S THE PRESIDENT OF THE KITAMI CORPORATION, SO YOUR FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
"Uncle"
That's right,
on that day...
TOSHYA.

...Father"...
...stopped being "father" anymore.
HOW IS SCHOOL GOING?
IS IT FUN?
"...YES.
HA HA HA
YOU MUST BE POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS THEN
HE ALWAYS GETS THE BEST GRADES, AND HE EVEN TOOK PART IN THE CITY SPORTS MEET YESTERDAY.
TOSHIYA-SAN IS AMAZING.
OKAY
I'LL FIND A WONDERFUL WIFE WHO WON'T SHAME THIS HOUSE FOR YOU!
WELL, DON'T WORRY
BY THE WAY, SHIZU, IT SEEMS KAZUTO IS COMING HOME SOON
YOUNG MASTER KAZUTO IS?!
IT'S BEEN A WHOLE YEAR! I'LL GO PREPARE THE TEA AND CONFECTIONS IMMEDIATELY!

"Secretive Stride"

That's...

I'M SORRY, BUT...
I HAVEN'T SHOWERED YET, SO...
DON'T TALK BACK TO ME
TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF AND COME HERE.
TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF.
YES

I wanted to know about my father and my mother
so in the middle of the night...
I went into my father's library without asking
SIOUK
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

I-
I'M SORRY.
I...
...W-WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT YOU AND MY MOTHER.
I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT YOUR MOTHER.
?!
BUT-!
?!
Rip
FATH...?!

FATHER!
NO!
STOP!
FATH...!
SMACK
It was the first time I saw it.
Father...
...looking so frightening
I'LL TELL YOU WHY I BROUGHT YOU HERE.
DON'T CALL ME FATHER!

...ARE NOTHING BUT A PLAYTHING I BOUGHT TO SATISFY MY NEEDS!
YOU...
He was so imposing that I thought
I'd be killed if I refused him.
I COULD EASILY MAKE YOU DISAPPEAR FROM THIS WORLD...
BUT IF YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF AND DO AS I SAY,
I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOU FOR AS LONG AS I LIVE...
DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
YES.

...my heart has been frozen.

WELL WELL, IF IT ISN'T YOUNG MASTER KAZUTO!
HOW WAS LIFE IN AMERICA?
IT WAS OKAY...
HAVEN'T YOU GOTTEN SORT OF THIN?
ARE YOU EATING PROP-ERLY?
YES
I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED THAT YOU'VE BEEN SICK OR SOMETHING

After I arrived here he got into a boarding school and went abroad. He hasn't been home much since

and he hardly ever talks to me even when he is here.

IF I DIDN'T SAY THAT, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE COME, RIGHT?
I HEARD YOU'D BEEN HOSPITALIZED, SO I FLEW BACK HOME EXPECTING TO FIND YOU DOING BADLY BUT I GUESS IT WAS JUST A RUMOUR
SO DO YOU.

No one ever knows what he's thinking,

except for "father."

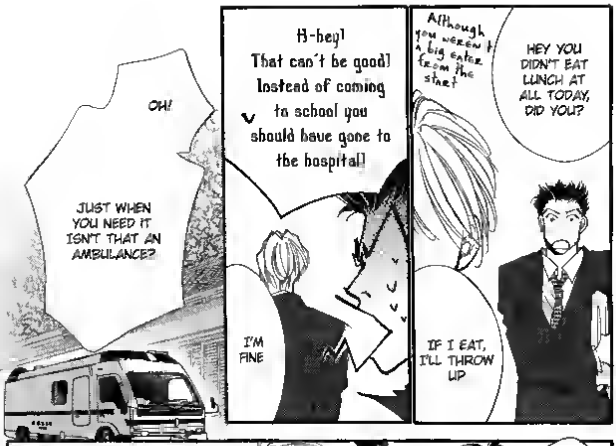
There's...
...not enough room for me to make my way in.
When you look at them...
...you naturally get the sense that they're "father and son"
TOSHIYA.
AH...
ARE YOU LISTENING, TOSHIYA?
YES
IT'S NOT FAIR TO PUSH HIM INTO IT WITHOUT ASKING HIM WHAT HE WANTS FATHER.
NOT EVERYONE DOES.
YOU'LL LEARN GOOD THINGS OVER THERE I'M SURE YOU'LL LIKE IT TOO
AFTER YOU GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL YOU SHOULD ALSO GO TO AMERICA, TOSHIYA.
I'm not allowed to refuse him...
...or talk first without being spoken too.
RIGHT, TOSHIYA?
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M PUSHING HIM
YES.

TOSHIYA
DO YOU LOVE ME, TOSHIYA?
AH!
AH
UH..!
AH.
There's only one word..
I'm allowed to say

I'm like an inanimate object without a soul

I DON'T MIND
BECAUSE...
...I HAVE THE SAME TASTES AS MY FATHER
Wha-
BESIDES, YOU AND MY FATHER ARE COMPLETE STRANGERS
EVEN IF YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP, IT'S NOTHING TO BLAME
BUT IT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENT STORY IF YOU'RE BEING FORCED...
THEN,
YOU KNO...
Ah.

WHAT?
There's no reason he would know...
...NOTHING.
IT'S NOTHING
...about my parents and such.
The only thing he s realized. .
.. is that I don't have any blood relatives
I m not a son to that person
just a slave.
FUKU-SHIMA,
YOU'RE LOOKING PALE RECENTLY.
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?
Although your complexion wasn't very good to begin the start...
IT'S JUST A LACK OF SLEEP


OH!
JUST WHEN YOU NEED IT ISN'T THAT AN AMBULANCE?
H-hey! That can't be good! Instead of coming to school you should have gone to the hospital!
I'M FINE
Although you weren't a big eater from the start
HEY YOU DIDN'T EAT LUNCH AT ALL TODAY, DID YOU?
IF I EAT, I'LL THROW UP

HEY, ISN'T THAT . YOUR HOUSE?
AH, TOSHIYA-SAN!

THE MASTER..
COLLAPSED ALL OF A SUDDEN!
THE SPASMS HAS STOPPED FOR THE TIME BEING
I THINK IT'S A TRANSIENT HEART ATTACK DEPENDING ON THE TEST RESULTS, SURGERY MIGHT ALSO BE A POSSIBILITY.
HE'LL NEED TO REST FOR A WHILE.

Rattle
LET HIM KNOW ABOUT THE SITUATION FOR NOW.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN DO LET'S JUST WATCH AND SEE.
KAZUTO-SAMA RETURNED TO AMERICA.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, TOSHIYA-SAN?

That strong, forceful man.
...can't even move now.
Like a dead person,
he's completely still.
Whatever I do,
whatever I say,

he won't move.
YOU'RE—
—SOME-ONE WHO CAN'T DO ANYTHING,
EVEN IF I WERE TO KILL YOU
THAT'S RIGHT.

IF I'M GOING TO DIE ANYWAY,
I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO DIE ABOVE YOU DURING SEX.
IT'S A SHAME, ISN'T IT?
THAT I DIDN'T DIE.
TOSHIYA,
DO YOU...
...LOVE ME?
YES.

YES
DO YOU . HATE ME?
I'M THE ONE WHO MADE YOU LIKE THAT
THAT'S RIGHT
I WON'T ASK YOU TO FORGIVE ME NOW.
IT'S JUST, THAT TIME,
WHEN YOU REFUSED ME IN THAT SCARED VOICE AND WITH THOSE SCARED EYES, YOU LOOKED SO MUCH LIKE HER...
YOU SHOULD REST
...I'LL DO THAT
WILL YOU... HOLD MY HAND UNTIL I FALL ASLEEP?

JUST LET ME...
..TELL YOU ONE THING
TRUTH-FULLY,
YOU'RE SOMEONE...
...I...

HE REALLY...
...DIED SUDDENLY.

I'M LEAVING.
THAT WAS MY INTENTION FROM THE START AFTER I RETURNED FROM AMERICA AND TOOK OVER FROM MY FATHER.
Kazuto-sama?!
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US AND THIS HOUSE?!
BUT THAT...! YOUNG MASTER,
YOU CAN STAY AND TAKE CARE OF THIS HOUSE.
I'LL SHOW UP ONCE IN A WHILE.
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS STILL YOUNG
BUT HE HAD A FINE YOUNG SON NAMED KAZUTO,
SO THE KITAMI GROUP IS SAFE.

I lost my home.
I lost my master.
What should I do?
SO IT'S YOU
WHAT IS IT?
CLICK
KNOCK
KNOCK

FIVE YEARS AGO,
I CAME HERE AFTER BEING BOUGHT BY THE MASTER OF THIS HOUSE
CAN YOU...
...BUY ME THIS TIME, PLEASE?!

...YOU AND I...
...ARE BROTHERS BY BLOOD...
WHY?!
I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU WANT
I CAN'T DO THAT.
BE-CAUSE...
OF COURSE YOU'RE NOT IN THE KITAMI HOUSEHOLD FAMILY REGISTER,
BUT WE WERE BORN FROM THE SAME MOTHER.

OUR MOTHER
...WAS A WOMAN WHO GOT MARRIED OFF TO FATHER FOR THE PURPOSE OF "GIVING BIRTH TO AN HEIR."
From the beginning mother thought it was a loveless marriage and hated father.
That she knew father had an inclination towards "homosexuality" also probably played a part in it.
she couldn't take it anymore and fled the Kitami house.
And then after she gave birth to me,
she gave birth to another boy an illegitimate child.
After that,
THAT...
...WAS YOU.

Father couldn't forgive her for cheating
He started hating her for abandoning him and me.
Then, he took out his hatred of our mother on you
Because of that hatred he found you and took you in
I THOUGHT YOU KNEW IT ALL.
I DIDN'T KNOW ANY OF THAT.
HE DIDN'T TELL ME ANYTHING
I DON'T WANT YOU TO RESENT HIM.
BUT IN THE END,
HE ALWAYS LOVED OUR MOTHER
I THINK HIS OBSESSION WITH HER AND HIS OBSESSION WITH YOU..
.. CAME ABOUT BECAUSE HE LOVED YOU BOTH SO DEEPLY THAT HE COULDN'T BRING HIMSELF TO HATE YOU.

Promise me, Kazuto.
You're Toshiya's only blood relative.
Whatever happens,
always support Toshiya.
FATHER WAS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A PARTNER TO SHARE HIS LIFE WITH, BUT THE PEOPLE HE LOVED NEVER LOVED HIM BACK.
ALL HE COULD DO WAS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIS STATUS AND WIELD HIS POWER.
HE WAS AN AWKWARD AND UNHAPPY PERSON.
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME LIKE MY FATHER.
WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS NOTHING BUT SPECULATION
WHATEVER YOU MAY SAY, I...
HE...
...OFTEN TOLD ME WHILE HE WAS ALIVE.

Support him in the way I couldn't.
Don't...
...leave Toshiya all alone.

I COULDN'T...
..CONVEY THAT TO HIM!
I'M SURE FATHER KNEW.
I LOVED...
...THAT PERSON, BUT...
I...
his hand clung on to me.
In his last moments...
But I'm the one who was clinging on to him.

I never...
...wanted to part from that person.
YOU'RE FREE NOW
BUT IF YOU WISH,
YOU CAN ALWAYS STAY WITH ME
WILL YOU COME WITH ME?
Do you..
love me, Toshiya?

Thanks, Eatsu, Kiko, Akio

It's a little embarrassing, but, to wrap things up, I'm going to finally talk about the characters.

It appears Kazu was popular no matter what he did. Maybe his advantage is that he's super rich. I've said this before, but it must be nice, huh? Being loved by a guy who's attractive, super rich, and doesn't have any annoying sister-in-laws. (laugh) It must be one of every woman's top fantasies. His clothes are dark and he wears sunglasses, so I don't have to draw his eyes. Stylen perverts are my favorite.

In contrast to Kazu I intended to make Yayoi more casual. I didn't like drawing him, but I enjoyed making up his dirty lines. I like those kind of things. Only men have the privilage of using that language in real life though, don't you think? A woman can't really get away with it. (Men too perhaps?)

Female characters are easier to draw than male characters, so Rika was probably the easiest to draw. I think. I draw female characters after my own ideal more than I do with male characters. I want to become a more sociable and active person.

Also, the person who became surprisingly popular was Fuku-chan! Why?! Why did he become so popular?! I wanted to try making him into a main character in the last chapter. He's neglected, but I can't say I don't like drawing his kind of character. Some time when I draw a comedy I think I might use that type of character as the lead. In a comedy.

If I get the opportunity I'd like to do do more work like this. I'll have to become more diligent.

And finally, I'd like to offer an apology to those who helped me create this story, my manager T-san who always had to take care of me, and everyone at the GUST editorial department for making all of you put up with me. Thank you! Also, I want to thank my friend Yuuya-san and all those who read my story and cheered me on! It's thanks to all of you.

I really, really thank you.